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Identical letters dated 4 August 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your attention to the interview on the "Meet the Press" programme of NBC channel broadcasted on 1 August 2010, in which the United States Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, unwarrantedly and under the false pretext of Iran developing nuclear weapons, threatened to use force against the Islamic Republic of Iran by stating: "The military option has been on the table and will remain on the table ... It is an important option." He further confirmed that United States has a detailed plan for attacking Iran.

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that various United States officials and members of Congress continue to publicly threaten the Islamic Republic of Iran by use of force in total defiance of international law and the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the basic principles of international law. These statements and threats are also against the global efforts to strengthen regional and international peace and security.

The Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its deep concern over, and strong condemnation of, such provocative, unwarranted and irresponsible statements against the Iranian nation and its institutions, under totally false allegations. Iran is a leading nation in rejecting and opposing all kinds of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. As a State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Islamic Republic of Iran has on many occasions, including in relevant international forums, officially declared that nuclear weapons as the most lethal and inhumane weapons have no place in its national defence policy.

Moreover, I wish to reiterate that the Islamic Republic of Iran would not hesitate to act in self-defence to respond to any attack against the Iranian nation and to take appropriate defensive measures to protect itself in accordance with its inherent right under Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

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Furthermore, I am sending an identical letter to the President of the Security Council and the President of the General Assembly. It would be highly appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 96, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Eshagh **Alehabib**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.